A Demonstration Farm should be opened at Shertallay and an Agricultural Inspector posted to the taluk. A cattle pound should also be established at Kuthiathodu for the benefit of the agriculturists.

A large extent of land had been acquired in connection with the opening of the canal between Shertallay and Alleppey and there were broad strips left on either side of it. They should be disposed of in convenient blocks for being converted into shop sites.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

64. Agricultural needs of the Vaikom taluk.

Mr. Varki Tharien (Member, Vaikom taluk) represented that there were about 50,000 *paras* of paddy lands lying waste in the taluk, because the people did not know how to cultivate them profitably. The *virippu*, *mundakan* and *punja* lands were also not yielding adequate return. To inquire into the condition of those lands the Director of Agriculture should be deputed, who should suggest the measures that should be adopted to make paddy cultivation profitable on those lands.

He also suggested the formation of a Committee composed of official and non-official members and presided over by the Tahsildar to look into the question of the repair of the irrigation canals which had become silted up, and see what other steps should be taken to improve the facilities for the development of agriculture.

He understood that about 3,000 *paras* of *tharisu* land in Vechur Kizhakumbhagam known as the Venthakari, which had been reserved at the time of the survey for providing manure to the ryots and for cattle-grazing, were to be thrown open for registry. If that was so, orders should be issued to prohibit the registry and to have the boundaries well demarcated and the lands maintained as a forest for the communal requirements of the people.

The construction of the Valianapuzha bund, though beneficial to the *punja* cultivation, was causing much damage to the *virippu* and *mundakan* lands by allowing water to stagnate in them. He, therefore, prayed that another bund might be constructed from Ullalail, south of the Maranvecttil *thodu*, to Kallara with a sluice in the Kottayam *thodu*, for the protection of *punja* lands and that the Valianapuzha bund might be cut open. He added that the five years' time prescribed in G. O. No. 3007/P. W., dated the 10th May 1910, had expired long ago and that the question should be taken up once again for consideration. He prayed that the Dewan might also inspect the locality.

Dewan's reply.—The Dewan Peishkar, Kottayam, will be asked to inspect the grazing ground referred to by the Member and submit a report. In regard to the Valianapuzha bund, I shall try to inspect the place personally, when I next go on tour to those parts. The other points are noted.

The Assembly adjourned at 5·5 P. M.

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